

REMARKS

In the December 8, 2009 Office Action, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 15-17 and 23 stand rejected in view of prior art. On the other hand, claims 10-14, 20-22 and 24 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application. No other objections or rejections were made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the December 8, 2009 Office Action, Applicants have amended claims 2-5, 7, 10-12 and 21-24 as indicated above. Also, Applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 20 by the current Amendment. Thus, claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10-17 and 21-24 are now pending, with claims 10-12, 21, 22 and 24 being the only independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of above amendments and the following comments.

Applicants are amending this application to accept the allowable subject matter. Specifically, claims 10-12, 21, 22 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form. However, claims 10-12 and 21 do not include the limitations added to claim 1 by the February 9, 2009 Amendment or the limitations added to claim 1 by the September 24, 2009 Amendment. These claims 10-12 and 21 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter before these additions, and thus, these additions are believed to be unnecessary. On the other hand, claims 22 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form without removing any limitations therefrom since claims 22-24 were first presented in the September 24, 2009 Amendment. The rejected dependent claims 2-5, 7, 8, 15-17 and 23 now depend from independent claim 10 (believed to be allowable as explained above), and thus, are believed to be allowable. Dependent claim 2 corresponds in content to previously presented claim 20, but with the limitations added to claim 1 by the February 9, 2009 Amendment or the limitations added to claim 1 by the September 24, 2009 Amendment removed. Thus, claim 20 has been cancelled. Also, previously presented, rejected, independent claim 1 has been cancelled. Thus, Applicants believe this application is now in condition for allowance.

Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

In paragraph 1 of the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 15-17 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0189274 (Lee et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,000,246 (Hsieh et al.). In response, Applicants have cancelled independent claim 1, and amended rejected dependent claims 2-5, 7, 8, 15-17 and 23 to depend from independent claim 10 (believed to be allowable as explained above), and thus, are believed to be allowable. Thus, this rejection is now believed to be moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

On page 5 of the Office Action, claims 10-14, 20-22 and 24 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter and the thorough examination of this application. In response, Applicants are amending this application to accept the allowable subject matter. Specifically, claims 10-12, 21, 22 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form. However, claims 10-12 and 21 do not include the limitations added to claim 1 by the February 9, 2009 Amendment or the limitations added to claim 1 by the September 24, 2009 Amendment. These claims 10-12 and 21 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter before these additions, and thus, these additions are believed to be unnecessary. On the other hand, claims 22 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form without removing any limitations therefrom since claims 22-24 were first presented in the September 24, 2009 Amendment. The rejected dependent claims 2-5, 7, 8, 15-17 and 23 now depend from independent claim 10 (believed to be allowable as explained above), and thus, are believed to be allowable. Dependent claim 2 corresponds in content to previously presented claim 20, but with the limitations added to claim 1 by the February 9, 2009 Amendment or the limitations added to claim 1 by the September 24, 2009 Amendment removed. Thus, claim 20 has been cancelled. Also, previously presented, rejected, independent claim 1 has been cancelled. Thus, Applicants believe this application is now in condition for allowance.

Appl. No. 10/573,042
Amendment dated March 1, 2010
Reply to Office Action of December 8, 2009

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In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 2-5, 7, 8, 10-17 and 21-24 are now in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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